

A

REVIEW

OF THE

Affairs of *FRANCE*:

With Observations on TRANSACTIONS at Home.

Tuesday, August 14. 1705.

I Am now upon the false Assertions (*Anglicè* the Lyes) of the *Memorial*; the Paper is not worth the Notice now taken of it; but as it is the Sence of the Party, there is more occasion to mention it, than it could be possible their should otherwise be occasion for.

The Party of the High Church-Men openly applaud this Book; they own both the Subject and the Management of it: It is strange to me they should blame the Moderation of the Government, and reflect upon the Temper and Clemency of the Queen; since had not the Government practis'd an Unusual, *I won't say an Unjustifiable Moderation* with these People, they could never have the Liberty of Insulting their Masters at such a rate, as no Nation in the World but this would bear with.

And I beg Pardon for Insinuating, as if there was something *Unjustifiable* in so much Lenity, as should encourage Mad-men to believe they were thereby Tolerated in the Liberties they take; But 'tis doubly Insolent to

upbraid the Moderation, and yet take the Benefit of it at the same time.

Was not the Government immoderately Gentle, these Men would be treated in another manner; the Insolence of their Behaviour would meet with so many Checks, so many Discouragements, and such remarkable Resentments, that it would long ago be suppress'd.

This may indeed discover to the World, that the *English* Throne is an Emblem of Sovereign Goodness; and that the Queen is exceedingly loth to shew the rough side of the Power Her Majesty is trusted with. Large Room is left here for Panegyrick on the Goodness of Her Majesty's Dealings with the rudest of her People, and her *I think* unparallel'd Moderation; but every Sentence of it must be a Satyr upon the Folly, ill Manners, and Ingratitude of that Party, who take the Advantage from that very Moderation they are beholden to.

And now, Gentlemen, what remains to

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say of the Publick, Is the Queen Moderate? Is the Government constant in the Practice of Moderation? Why then do you Complain of the Moderation, under the Shadow and Protection whereof you take the freedom, which no Queen, no Nation, no People ever suffer'd before?

And is the Queen still Moderate? Take Advice once of *the Man you hate*; all the bounds of Human forbearance may be out sinn'd, and you may provoke the Queen to shew you another Face than ever yet you have seen.

Now pray, Gentlemen, let us Examine who is to be charg'd with this *Memorial*, and who are the Men that are thus Provoking to the Queen, and who not?

First, Gentlemen, 'tis plain 'tis not the Church of *England*; they call themselves the Church indeed, and speak in the first Person of the Church; but 'tis a Mask, these are not the Church; *Memorial Principles*, can never be Church of *England* Principles; and the Scandal can never reach the Established Church: To say the Church of *England* wou'd talk thus to the Queen; to say the Church of *England* will suffer *Nature to Rebel against Principle*, and will not bear the Usage of the Ministers of State.

This is to Blaspheme the unspotted Character of a Protestant Church; 'tis to bespatter the Reputation of a Church; that besides her other, and most clear Reputation of Loyalty, has always profess'd to adhere to the true Interest of *England*, and the Currency of the Law.

To call this the Church, that at the same time speaks the Language of Rebels, the Dialect the Church has always protested against; this is to impose things on the Church, which she can never own without Mortgaging her very Constitution as a Body.

'Tis blowing up all the Church's Fame, and Sacrificing all the Reputation of the Church's Loyalty to a Suggestion.

The Church of *England* has, and all Churches and Nations in the World have often taken up Arms in the Defence of Liberty, and for delivering themselves from the Insults of Tyrants, and Invasion of their Civil and Religious Rights — But where is this in the Case? — What Rights, either Civil or Religious, does the Queen Inva-

dispensing with Laws, Perverting or ill Directing the Laws can these People have to Complain of? As *Job* says in another Case, *Whose Ox or Ass does the Queen take from them? Whose Property does Her Majesty Inva-*

Is not the uninterrupted Currency of the Laws, the Glory of Her Majesty's Reign? Nothing but the Royal Clemency Interrupts the Exemplification of Her Majesty's most exact Justice; Tenderness and Pity to the Miserable, frequently move Her Majesty to Pardon guilty and depending Wretches; But when does Her Majesty delay or deny Justice? What Breaches has Her Majesty made in the Constitution? What Laws has the Manner of Her Administration broken?

Stand forth, Gentlemen, and let us see you make a Declaration of Right; Let us hear your real Grievances, if you are not ashamed of them; All this Clamour can not be made for nothing: The Dissenters, when in Former times they had some uneasinesses, and as you say were Clamorous and Mutinous, *tho' that was never prov'd*, they always told you what they wanted; they always made out their Matter of Complaint, and could say what they would have — But pray, Gentlemen, let us see a little the Sum of your Demands; let us see the Trifles for which you make all this Noise, and for want of which, you wou'd, if it were possible, make the Government and all the Nation uneasy — The Heads of your Grievances are reducible to this small Number, and that you can make no more of them, is your Misfortune; and drives you to most Lamentable Shifts and Disorders. All your Grievances are,

1. That the Ministry is taken from you, and Intrusted with those that you do not like.
2. That the Queen is not of your Mind, as to the Methods for Establishing the Church of *England*. And,
3. That you resolving not to be guided by Her Majesty's Methods, are highly Provok'd that the Queen will not come over to yours.

If there are any Grievances which do not come under one of these three Heads, they must be such as are yet more Scandalous to you, and which I am loth to suggest of you; tho' if I did, I should not be left without Testimony,

Testimony from the concurring Evidence of your Conduct.

These are

1. That you cannot be entirely Free, but are Bound under Oaths, Abjurations, and the like, to the burthening the Consciences of your best Friends; and making the Great end you all aim at, of restoring the Abdicated Race, yet more and more Difficult and Remote.

2. That you have Imposed upon the Church of *England*, a most unhappy prospect of a Protestant Successor; and cannot be allow'd to judge whether occasionally a Popish Prince is not the most likely to Establish the Exalted interest of the Church of *England*.

3. That you are most Unjustly and Illegally hamper'd with a most Antichristian Toleration, and thereby prevented pursuing that most Glorious prospect of Triumphant on your Brethren, which you had in View, a-la-mode, *The shortest way with the Dissenters*.

These things some uncharitable people say, are your Grievances; and that you are resolv'd never to be at Rest, till your own Ruine, or these Glorious Designs are brought to pass; and in Order to that, 'tis their Advice to let you alone; the first part of the Propoposal, *viz. Your own Ruine*, being in a fair way to be brought to pass by your selves, and the Danger of the other being not worth any bodies Concern.

But I am not proceeding by way of Satyr, or Censure, I shall suggest nothing here; but what your own Proceedings Declare to be the real Bottom of the Matter; I shall take no Advantage of you, but handle those things which you really Complain of.

1. The Ministry is taken from you, your *B——s*, *R——s*, and *N——s* are turn'd out, and all your hair-brain'd Friends are laid aside.

Well, Gentlemen! and is this a sufficient ground for you to Insult the Queen upon? is it a justifiable pretence, to threaten the resentment of a Party? to ask Her Majesty, what Reasons she had for Dismissing them? and though the displacing those Gentlemen appears an Act of the highest Prudence in the Queen, and Necessity in the State, yet is Her Majesty bound to give an account, of her Actions, in this Case to a Malecontent Party? — How are our Times and People turn'd about in this Nation!

What is become now of the Old Famous Texts, the High Flying Pulpits in this Nation us'd to resound with — *Who shall say unto the King, what doest thou? — Is it meet to say unto Princes, so is not just, and the like* — Where's the Submission, the Passive Principle, and the High Church Loyalty now become?

But to aggravate this further.

Has the Queen broke any Law in this Case? By what Statute and Act of Parliament, by what Custom, Usage, or Prescription, by what Title did these Gentlemen Claim their Places in the Administration? were they purchas'd with their Money, or held by Patent, or had they any other Dependence that might be pretended on, which they could say they were Injur'd?

If they had no Right of Tenure, no Inheritance of Office, as the Earls Marshal, Champion, &c. Claim; had they any publick Character? were they the Representatives of the High Church, and Commissionated from any Body or part of the Nation? — Had they any Claim to supersede Her Majesty's Pleasure?

Or were they Her Majesty's meer Agents, the Servants of Her Royal Office, the Wheels and Hands of the Administration, entirely depending upon the main Spring of that great Movement, the Government; are they not in all Ages put in, and put out, at the entire Dispose of the Prince? are they not as absolutely depending upon the Queen, as the Eyes of the Handmaid, are to the hand of her Mistress? are they not Her Majesty's Servants? — 'Tis Grace to Employ them, and 'tis Will and Pleasure to dismiss them.

You can have no pretence for such Indecencies, on so plain a Case as this; had the Queen never Employ'd them, they had receiv'd no wrong; had they been dismiss'd sooner, they had no reason to Complain; had they been continu'd till now, it had been no Debt; 'tis Her Majesty's undoubted Right, to Administer Her Government by what Agents and Instruments Her Royal Prudence shall direct her to; and there can be no just ground of Complaint there.

Nor, Gentlemen, can the Persons be a proper defence, for this prodigious Excursion in your Politicks; the Merit of those dismiss'd,

dismiss'd, or the Charge against those employ'd, can never make such a Chafin in Her Majesty's Discretion, as should fright you into such Exotick Frenzies.

Pray, Gentlemen, give your selves leave to examine, are these Men you Espouse worth this Risque? Is the Nation *Peace*, to be hazarded against the Fortunes of 10 or 12 Men, who at the same time, have no Injury done them? Had these Men been all Hang'd, *God bless them, and keep them from deserting it*, you had no Reason to go this way to work with your Sovereign.

Nay, Gentlemen, I must tell you, the Whiggs formerly in like Case, stood still, the Dissenters stood still, and suffer'd Men Superiour to these, both for Honour and Character, to Dye Unjustly, and never offer'd the Rampant Extalies of their Passions, in Terms like these; and you would do well to consider the Comparison, either between the Men or the Circumstances; and I fairly Challenge you to compare by it, the Loyalty of the High Church and the Dissenters.

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